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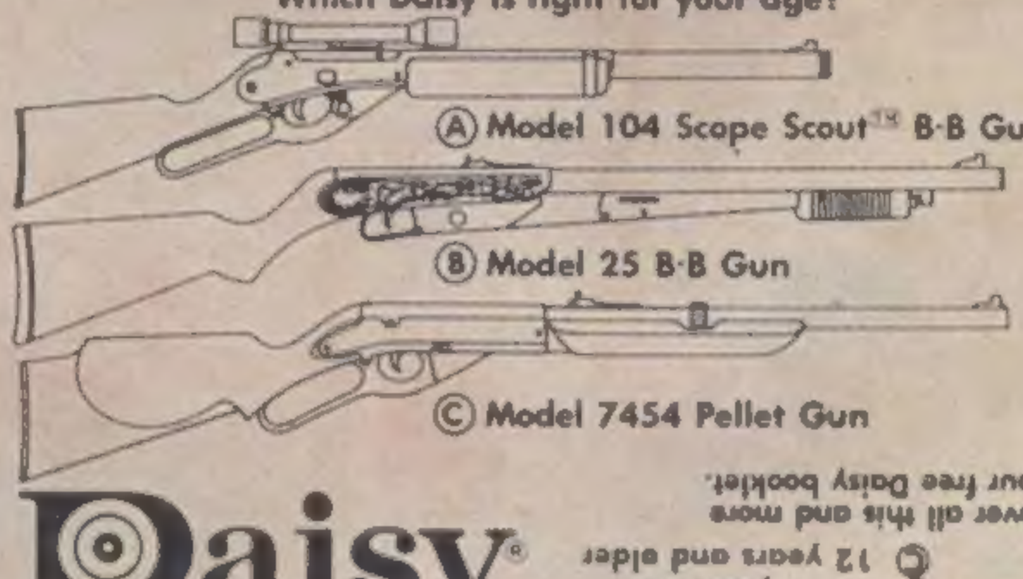

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THE SPECTRE HAUNTS THE MUSEUM OF FEAR

SCRIPT: MICHAEL FLEISHER
ART: ERNIE CHUA and JIM APARO
EDITOR: JOE ORLANDO

QUIET NOW. *BOTH* OF YOU! WE DON'T WANT ANYONE TO *HEAR* US!

THERE'S NO NEED TO *WORRY*, PROFESSOR! WHO COULD POSSIBLY GUESS THAT YOU CARRY ON YOUR *GREATEST* WORK AFTER *HOURS*, RIGHT IN YOUR OWN CURATOR'S *WORKROOM* AT THE *MUSEUM* OF *NATURAL HISTORY*?

IN THE PLACID SUBURB OF SAYVILLE, NEW YORK, POSTMAN HERMAN MILLER GOES ABOUT HIS DAILY ROUNDS...

HAVE A NICE DAY NOW, MRS. PENNY!

YOU TOO, *HERMAN*! I HOPE THAT RHEUMATISM OF YOURS CLEARS UP!

ARF!

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AND AS HE STOPS AT THE RELAY BOX FOR HIS NEXT SACK OF MAIL, HE HARDLY NOTICES THE TWO WHITE-COATED MEN EMERGING FROM A NEARBY VAN...

AND WHEN FINALLY HE DOES NOTICE, IT IS TOO LATE... MUCH TOO LATE...

MMMPF!

THIS ONE WAS *EASY*, PROFESSOR! HE DIDN'T EVEN--

CAREFUL HOW YOU **HANDLE** HIM, YOU *FOOL!* DO YOU WANT TO *DAMAGE* THIS FINE *SPECIMEN?*

YOU'RE NOT WORKING FOR SOME CHEAP THIRD AVENUE *CURIO SHOP*, YOU KNOW! THESE SPECIMENS MUST BE OF *MUSEUM QUALITY!*

YES, I KNOW, PROFESSOR! I-I'M SORRY!

NOW THE VAN LEAVES SAYVILLE AND TOOLS THROUGH MANHATTAN'S POLLUTION-CLOGGED STREETS UNTIL...

THE *MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY!* LITTLE DO THEY SUSPECT THAT WHILE THEY PAY ME TO WASTE MY *GENIUS* ON THEIR STUPID *BIRDS* AND *GORILLAS*, I AM SECRETLY PREPARING THE MOST *PERFECT* MUSEUM EXHIBIT OF ALL *TIME!*

HURRY! GET HIM INSIDE BEFORE SOMEONE SEES!

MOMENTS LATER...

THIS FREIGHT ELEVATOR WILL TAKE US RIGHT PAST THE EXHIBIT FLOORS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND RIGHT TO MY PRIVATE WORK-ROOM!

AND THEN...

QUICKLY NOW! STRAP HIM TO THE TABLE SO I CAN GET RIGHT TO WORK!

NO NEED TO RUSH, PROFESSOR! THAT CHLOROFORM WILL KEEP HIM OUT COLD FOR AT LEAST ANOTHER HOUR!

OHHH, MY H-HEAD! WH-WHERE... WHERE...

ANOTHER HOUR, EH? YOU IMBECILE! HURRY! GIVE HIM A SEDATIVE BEFORE HE SPOILS EVERYTHING!

H-HEY! GET AWAY FROM ME! WHATTA YOU GUYS TRYIN' TO DO TO ME, ANYWAY?

I-I'M GETTIN' OUTTA HERE... AND YOU MUGGERS BETTER NOT TRY AND STOP ME, EITHER!

STOP HIM, YOU FOOLS! HE MUSTN'T GET AWAY!

AND *WHATEVER* YOU DO, SEE TO IT THAT YOU DON'T *DAMAGE* HIM!

YES, PROFESSOR!

STILL GROGGY FROM THE CHLOROFORM, AND BARELY ABLE TO SEE HIS WAY IN THE MURKY BLACKNESS, POSTMAN MILLER LURCHES THROUGH THE ANGLED PASSAGEWAYS OF THE DARKENED MUSEUM, UNTIL FINALLY...

OH *NO!* I-I'VE RUN INTO SOME KIND OF... OF *DEAD END!* F-FEELS LIKE *GLASS*, OR--

I CAN'T TELL WHERE HE *WENT!* TELL THE PROFESSOR TO TURN ON THE *LIGHTS!*

G-GOOD LORD!

SUDDENLY, THE GARISH GLARE OF FLUORESCENT LIGHT FLOODS THE MURKY HALL, AND THIS ENABLES MILLER, FOR THE FIRST TIME, TO SEE **EXACTLY** WHERE HE IS... GOING...

IS THAT *BETTER?*

YEAH, *THANKS!* WE'LL FIND HIM *NOW!*

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING.

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THERE HE IS! EASY NOW! REMEMBER WHAT THE PROF SAID ABOUT DAMAGING HIM!

GASP!

ST-STAY AWAY F-FROM ME! D-DON'T COME ANY CLOSER OR I'LL...I'LL KILL YOU!

OH OH! HE'S GOT ONE OF THE PROFESSOR'S KNIVES!

I SEE THAT! THE PROFESSOR WILL BE VERY ANNOYED, BUT NOW WE HAVEN'T GOT ANY CHOICE! HE'D BE DAMAGED IN THE STRUGGLE ANYWAY!

N-NO, D-DON'T!

GHAAAH!

VIP! VIP!

WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING? WHAT WAS THAT NOISE I--

MY WORD! YOU'VE RUINED HIM! LOOK AT THOSE DISGRACEFUL HOLES! HE WAS A NEARLY PERFECT SPECIMEN, AND YOU--

WE KNOW HOW IMPORTANT HE WAS TO YOU, PROFESSOR! BUT WE HAD NO CHOICE! WE'RE... WE'RE SORRY!

IT IS EARLY THE FOLLOWING MORNING WHEN...

RIGHT THIS WAY, LIEUTENANT! I FOUND HIM RIGHT DOWN THERE!

YOU DIDN'T TOUCH ANYTHING, DID YOU, MR. KENNY?

OH NO, SIR! I KNOW FROM WATCHIN' TEEVEE YOU'RE NOT S'POSED TO TOUCH NUTHIN'! 'COURSE I NEVER DREAMED I'D EVER ACTUALLY FIND A--

HE'S ALREADY STIFF, LIEUTENANT! PROB'LY DEAD SINCE YESTERDAY!

WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF THIS, SERGEANT?

KNIFE OF SOME KIND, LIEUTENANT! BUT I NEVER SAW ONE LIKE IT!

ME NEITHER! BUT THE LAB BOYS OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO FIGURE OUT WHAT IT IS!

MEANWHILE, BETTER CALL A WAGON FOR OUR DEAD FRIEND!

YES SIR!

LATER THAT SAME DAY, THE PROFESSOR AND HIS ASSISTANTS STRIKE AGAIN...

LOOK! A PERFECT SPECIMEN FOR MY AMERICAN BUSINESSMAN DISPLAY! I MUST HAVE HIM!

HE'S A BEAUTY, ALL RIGHT!

MMMPF!

BE CAREFUL! I DON'T WANT HIM RUINED LIKE YOU RUINED THE LAST ONE!

AND THAT EVENING..

I OUGHT TO CALL THE LAB AND SEE IF THEY'VE MANAGED TO COME UP WITH A--

CALLING ALL UNITS! CALLING ALL UNITS!

WE HAVE A REPORT ON A BREAKING AND ENTERING AT SCHWARTZ TAXIDERMY SUPPLY COMPANY, 162 PRINCE STREET! UNITS IN AREA PROCEED TO SCENE! OVER.

SCHWARTZ TAXIDERMY SUPPLY COMPANY? WHY IN BLAZES WOULD ANYONE WANT TO ROB A--? WAIT A MINUTE! OF COURSE!

THAT KNIFE THE DEAD MAILMAN WAS HOLDING! IT WAS A TAXIDERMIST'S KNIFE!

THIS IS CORRIGAN IN PHANTOM UNIT #64 CALLING CENTRAL! OVER!

THIS IS CENTRAL, PHANTOM 64! OVER!

CALL EVERYONE OFF THAT BURGLARY AT 162 PRINCE. I WANT TO HANDLE THAT ONE ALONE! IT CONNECTS UP WITH AN ONGOING MURDER INVESTIGATION! OVER AND OUT!

RACING TO THE SCENE OF THE BURGLARY, JIM CORRIGAN TAKES UP A POSITION OPPOSITE THE TAXIDERMY COMPANY'S LOADING DOCK...

THERE'S TWO OF 'EM, AND THEY'RE LOADING CRATES OF TAXIDERMY SUPPLIES INTO THAT VAN!

TAXIDER

TALK ABOUT ABSENT-MINDED PROFESSORS! IT'S JUST LIKE THE PROF TO RUN OUT OF SUPPLIES RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF STUFFING THAT--

H-HEY! I THOUGHT I *HEARD* SOM'ETH:N'!

PERHAPS IT IS THE SHRIEKING OF YOUR *VICTIMS* THAT YOU HEARD!

NH-NHA-!? WHO...WHO ARE *Y-YOU*?

MEN CALL ME... *THE SPECTRE...!*

Y-YOUR EYES! TH-THERE'S SOMETH'N *FUNNY* ABOUT YOUR *EYES!* WH-WHEN I LOOK *INSIDE* 'EM, I SEE... I SEE...

THE VILLAIN GLIMPSES DEATH IN THE SPECTRE'S EYES AND CRUMPLES TO THE GROUND WITH AN AGONIZED GURGLE...

AAAAAA

NOW A REMARKABLE TRANSFORMATION TAKES PLACE AS THE SPECTRE USES HIS UNEARTHLY POWERS TO TRANSFORM HIMSELF INTO AN EXACT DOUBLE OF THE SLAIN ASSISTANT...

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING.

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Wear and prove it in the privacy of your own home. Marvel at the pure, dazzling color and fiery sparkle! Show it to friends. See how their eyes pop with excitement! After all, they have no way to suspect it isn't a genuine African diamond worth a fortune!

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*JULIE SCHWARTZ... THAT'S ME! I'LL GIVE YOU A PEEK INTO MY EDITORIAL MIND, TO SHOW YOU HOW I HANDLE MY SUPER-HEROES AND THE NEW JOKER MAG!

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- AN UNPUBLISHED *GOLDEN AGE GREEN LANTERN* STORY!
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IT WAS ME! I...I JUST SMACKED MY KNEE INTO A CRATE, THAT'S ALL!

IS THAT ALL? I SWEAR YOU WERE SCREAMING LOUD ENOUGH TO WAKE THE DEAD!

COME ON LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

SLAM

PRESENTLY...

HERE WE ARE! I'LL PULL UP TO THE SIDE ENTRANCE SO WE CAN UNLOAD!

MOMENTS LATER...

LET'S MOVE IT! THE PROFESSOR WAS HOPPING MAD WHEN HE HAD TO STOP WORKING ON THAT BUSI-NESSMAN JUST AS HE WAS READY TO START STUFFING THE HEAD!

YEAH! I-I'LL BET!

SOON...

WE'RE BACK, PROFESSOR! AND WE GOT ALL THOSE SUPPLIES YOU NEEDED!

GOOD, GOOD! AT LAST I'LL BE ABLE TO CONTINUE MY WORK!

NO, VILE PROFESSOR! AS OF THIS NIGHT YOUR FILTHY WORK HAS... ENDED...!

HUH--!?!

THE F'IENDS FLEE FOR THE'R LIVES DOWN THE LABYRINTHINE CORRIDORS OF THE DESERTED MUSEUM, ONLY TO FREEZE IN TERROR AS TWO STUFFED GORILLAS SPRING M'RACULOUSLY TO LIFE.

P-PROFESSOR! LOOK!

ARRRGHH!

TH-THERE MUST BE A LOGICAL *EXPLANATION* FOR IT! THERE *HAS* TO BE!

GASP!

RUN, PROFESSOR! IT'S... IT'S SOME KIND OF G-GHOST!

NO DEATH COULD BE AS *HIDEOUS* AS THE *CRIMES* THEY COMMITTED...

ARRRGHHH

HGYAAAAAA

... NOT EVEN A DEATH WROUGHT BY... THE *SPECTRE!*

DATELINE: ADVENTURE

J-3866

Beginning this issue we are featuring THE SEVEN SOLDIERS OF VICTORY in the back of ADVENTURE COMICS. As we mentioned earlier, this story was written in the mid-nineteen-forties and was illustrated in the mid-nineteen-seventies. We think it's different, and very interesting, and we hope you enjoy it. AQUAMAN will return in more new adventures as soon as we conclude this serial.

Dear Joe,

I am writing to express my congratulations on your addition of Earl Crawford to your somewhat terse list of supporting characters in The Spectre yarns. The new character is exactly what is needed to round out the stories. Crawford represents morality and humanity, versus the Spectre's cold, deathly philosophy. He is a perfect contrast to the Astral Avenger, so very much needed for good plots

One can best sum up Crawford's philosophy by paraphrasing the statement of a certain Caped Crusader a while back. to kill a killer out of blind rage and revenge makes one no different than the murderer. In short, Crawford, like Gwen, seems to add a little base to the plots

On the other side of the coin, Aquaman is an excellent back-up, as he also provides a necessary contrast and relief from the tragedy present in The Spectre. He is a simple character so far, but like so many other heroes today, he can be given a personality unique to himself. Keep him in there

Nathan Keever, Katonah, New York

It takes time to build up a cast of characters, and even longer to make them real. We're embarking on this slowly, but in ways that may surprise you. Next issue we focus on Jim Corrigan (who surely is the most important member of our supporting cast) and the burdens of eternal death-in-life, in "The Voice That Doomed The Spectre!"

. . . . .

Dear Joe,

If my refusing to buy a comic would in any way influence what was done with that comic, **Adventure** would be at the top of my list of comics to boycott. #435 was yet another in the tedious series of the Spectre travesties to be dished out by Fleisher and Carley.

Now don't get me wrong. I can stand just about anything. Even a ghost who turns people into wooden statues and saws them up. Even a hero who turns people to glass and smashes them. My only question is, why call him a hero?

And then you have the gall to say that, "... if they have no respect for other's lives, they have but a fragile claim to their own." In that case, what is The Spectre doing here? He has, in his present incarnation, no respect for human lives and therefore should be terminated.

I'll be glad when it's over.

Andy Whitehead, Toledo, Ohio

We never claimed that we thought The Spectre was alive, so he certainly has no real relation to that statement.

. . . . .

Dear Joe,

One day people are going to realize that art and entertainment are not propaganda. For a film or comic to be enjoyable or even of high quality it isn't necessary to agree with or approve of the actions of the protagonist

Would I approve of an entity in real life behaving the way The Spectre does toward his victims? Hardly, but then no one in real life is as purely rotten and useless as the villains you feature—no matter what they do. **Adventure Comics** is a comic (and a bloody good one) not a tract.

In the comic world where nearly all crime fighters go to absurd lengths to avoid brusing their foes, The Spectre's ruthlessness is refreshing. Barry Allen, after all, is human. Isn't it a little silly that, after all the trouble he's had with the Mirror Master, he doesn't get fed up and run around him fast enough to turn him into whipped cream? Of course, he can't. It would be out of **character**—the image built up for the enjoyment of the reader.

That Corrigan's attitude is morally ambiguous is clear from the handling of Earl Crawford. Fortunately, it was kept at ambiguity and not outright condemnation, since the Spectre should remain the hero, not just become the main character.

If a reader can't get past the spirit of vengeance, he should try to read it considering Corrigan as insane (there is a slight indication of this, although I prefer to ignore it) and a protagonist-villain. Otherwise, he should go hunt up some propaganda

Bill Reynolds, London, England

After that articulate defense of our editorial policy, we invite you to express your views: on The Spectre, and on the new Seven Soldiers of Victory serial. Our address is: DATELINE: ADVENTURE, National Periodical Publications, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, New York 10019. We're looking forward to hearing from you.

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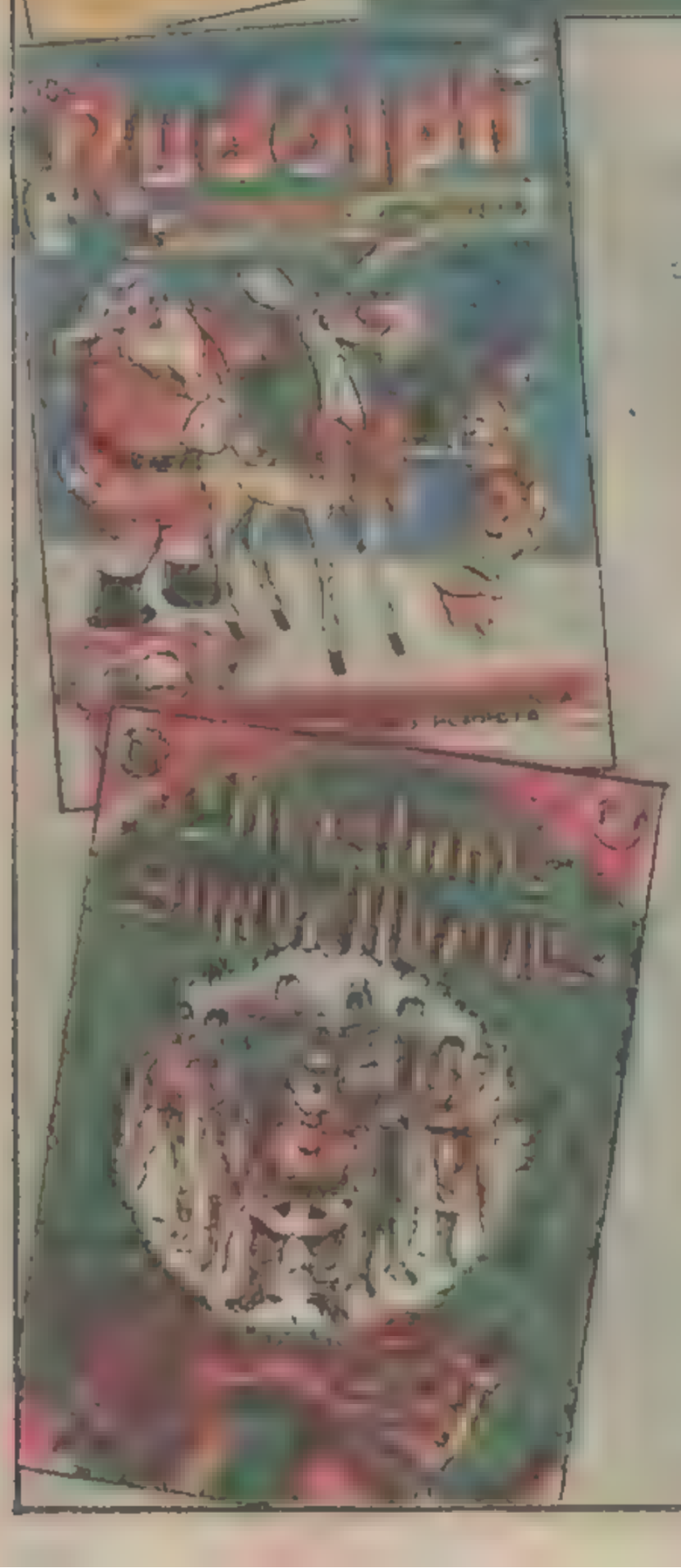

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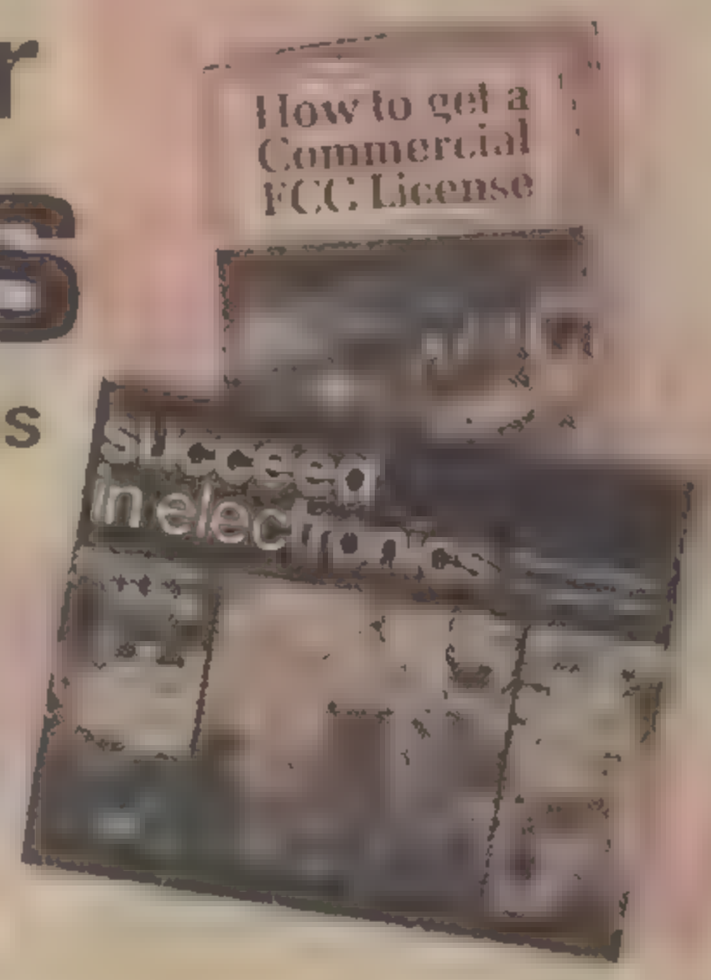

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THIS STORY IS A CLASSIC ADVENTURE OF *THE SEVEN SOLDIERS OF VICTORY*. WRITTEN IN THE *GOLDEN AGE OF COMICS* AND DISCOVERED IN OUR FILES AFTER THIRTY YEARS! FOR YOUR READING PLEASURE, RETURN WITH US TO THE *GOLDEN AGE* AND THE...

SEVEN SOLDIERS OF VICTORY

"LAND OF MAGIC!"

CHAPTER ONE

THE SOLDIERS OF VICTORY HAVE EXPERIENCED ADVENTURES AS *STRANGE* AND *UNBELIEVABLE* AS ANY HUMAN BEINGS... BUT NEVER BEFORE HAVE THEY EVEN *DREAMED* OF SUCH FANTASTIC AND BEWILDERING EVENTS AS FOLLOW THEIR MEETING WITH *WILLIE WISHER*. FOR WILLIE HAS THE UNIQUE GIFT OF BEING ABLE TO MAKE *ANYTHING* HE WISHES COME *TRUE!* AND WHAT HE WISHES UP FOR THE LEGIONNAIRES IS ALMOST BEYOND THE IMAGINATION IN OUR ORDINARY WORLD, ALTHOUGH IT'S MERELY COMMONPLACE IN THE...

Script: JOE SAMACHSON • Art: DICK DILLIN + HIMSELF...THE O'TEX.. • Editor: JOE ORLANDO

BEFORE A DISTINGUISHED AUDIENCE, A NEW FILM IS ABOUT TO HAVE ITS FIRST SHOWING.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. YOU ARE ABOUT TO WITNESS THE MOST SENSATIONAL, COLOSSAL NEWSREEL EPIC EVER FILMED! THIS MASTERPIECE OF THE SILVER SCREEN DEPICTS THE ADVENTURES OF THE FAMOUS SOLDIERS OF VICTORY...

SO THAT'S JOHN SHOMAN! NEVER HEARD HIS NAME BEFORE. WHO'S HE?

OH, SHOMAN'S A RICH MAN WHO'S MADE A HOBBY OF HELPING CHARITIES! BESIDES THAT, HE'S BEEN TRYING TO PRODUCE MOVIES FOR YEARS! NEVER GOT ANYPLACE THOUGH.

WELL, HE'S GOT SOMETHING THIS TIME--ANY PICTURE FEATURING THE SOLDIERS OF VICTORY IS SURE TO BE A HIT.

YES. I WONDER WHY THEY LET HIM PHOTOGRAPH THEIR ADVENTURES

MAYBE WE'LL FIND OUT. SHHH, IT'S STARTING!

IN RESPONSE TO A SUMMONS THAT BROOKS NO DELAY, THE SOLDIERS OF VICTORY HAVE ASSEMBLED AT AN UNDISCLOSED MEETING PLACE...

WELL, PARTNERS, HERE WE ARE. WHO SENT THEM CARRIER PIGEONS WITH THE MESSAGE?

CARRIER PIGEONS? YOU GOT IT WRONG, VIC. THE KID AND ME JUST GOT A TELEGRAM!

SEEMS TO BE A MIX-UP HERE. I READ ABOUT THE MEETING IN THE PERSONAL AD COLUMN!

MIX-UP IS NO WORD FOR IT!

YEAH, WE GOT THE SUMMONS WHEN A PLANE DID SOME SKY-WRITING!

BY MY HALIDOME, THIS IS PASSING STRANGE! MY MESSAGE WAS STRAIGHT FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH... MY STEED, VICTORY, HELD THE NOTE BETWEEN HIS TEETH!

BOYS, THERE'S SOMETHING SO WRONG HERE IT'S GOT ME WORRIED. IF NONE OF US SENT THE MESSAGES, WHO DID? AND HOW DID HE KNOW WHERE TO REACH US?

POP

EXCUSE ME, GENTLEMEN. I AM LOATH TO INTERRUPT... I SENT THE MESSAGES.

HUH? YOU?

OF COURSE... I SIMPLY WISHED YOU TO HAVE THEM!

YOU SEE, I CAN DO THINGS ALL ALONE JUST BY WISHING FOR IT!

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

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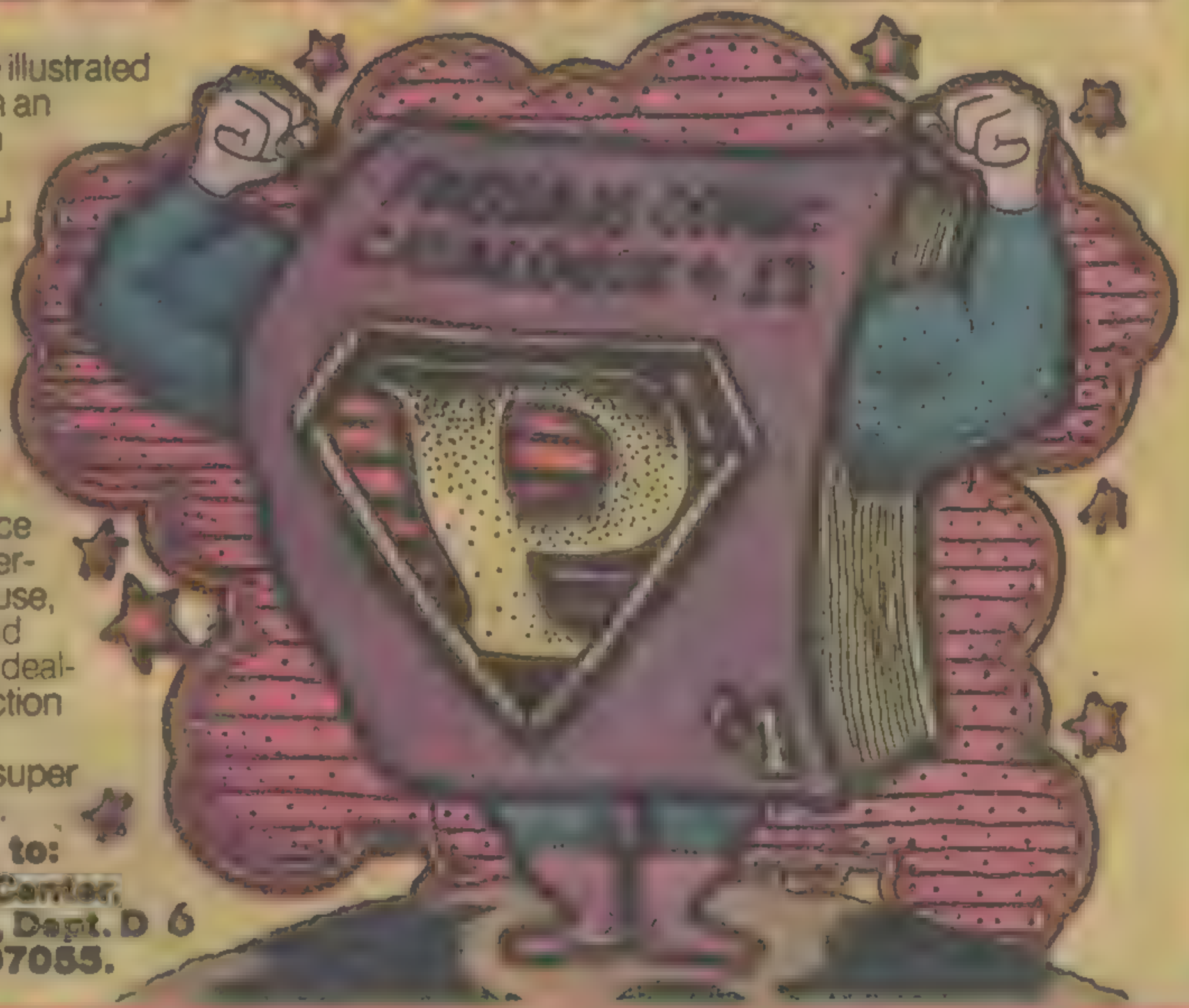

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HO! HO! THE LITTLE MAN HAS A GOOD SENSE OF HUMOR!

HE'D BE A RIOT ON THE STAGE!

I KNOW YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME... BUT YOU *WILL* SOON--WHEN YOU HAVE YOUR WONDERFUL ADVENTURES! NOW TO MAKE SURE THAT WE HAVE A RECORD OF THEM...

I WISH... I WISH FOR JOHN SHOMAN AND SOME NEWSREEL CAMERAMEN!

FOOM

HUH? WHAT...?

IT CAN'T BE! MY EYES ARE GOIN' BAD ON ME!

AH, *NOW* YOU'RE BEGINNING TO BELIEVE! NOW, WHERE SHALL I SEND YOU? LET ME SEE... HOW ABOUT THE *LAND OF MAGIC?*

LAND OF MAGIC? THERE'S NO SUCH PLACE!

IS THAT SO? I JUST WISH YOU WERE THERE... YOU'D FIND OUT! YES, I *WISH* YOU WERE THERE!

YIII... WHAT'S HAPPENING TO US? WHERE ARE WE HEADING FOR?

WHERE ARE YOU HEADING FOR? THE LAND OF MAGIC, OF COURSE! IT'S SUCH A LAND AS YOU HAVE NEVER EVEN REMOTELY IMAGINED... WAIT TILL YOU SEE IT!

THE FIRST OF THE SEVEN SOLDIERS TO REACH THEIR DESTINATION IS KING ARTHUR'S GREATEST WARRIOR...

The Shining Knight

Chapter 2

SUPPOSE YOU HAD TO FIGHT AN OPPONENT WHO COULD ANTICIPATE YOUR EVERY MOVE. HE *KNOWS* HOW YOU FEEL AND WHAT YOU THINK... BECAUSE HE THINKS AND FEELS *EXACTLY* THE SAME WAY HIMSELF. HE'S JUST AS *STRONG* AS YOU ARE, JUST AS *CLEVER*, JUST AS *QUICK*... AND HE HAS A FEW FRENDS TO HELP HIM, WHICH YOU HAVE NOT. YOU'D BE IN A SPOT, HUH? WELL, THAT'S EXACTLY THE SPOT THE *SHINING KNIGHT* IS IN WHEN HE TANGLES WITH A *MAGICIAN*, AND THE WILY WIZARD SETS...

Knight After Knight!

SCRIPT: JOE SAMACHSON
ART: HOWARD CHAYKIN
EDITOR: JOE ORLANDO

THE CHAMPION OF CHIVALRY AND VICTORY COME TO EARTH TO FIND A FAMILIAR TOUCH IN THE MIDST OF UNFAMILIAR SURROUNDINGS.

HO, VICTORY, SEEST WHAT I SEE? 'TIS A *CASTLE*... SUCH A CASTLE AS ABOUNDED IN THE DAYS OF *KING ARTHUR*.

BEWARE, FRIEND! LET US NOT PASS TOO CLOSE TO THE CASTLE OF THE MAGICIAN, MERLIN.

[illegible] CAPTURED THE PRINCESS OF THIS LAND AND MEANS TO KEEP HER SO HE IS SURROUNDED OF STRANGERS.

DIDST HEAR, VICTORY? AN EVIL MAGICIAN HOLDS A FAIR MAIDEN CAPTIVE! 'TIS AS IN THE DAYS OF THE ROUND TABLE!

--BUT WE SHALL RESCUE THE DAMSEL OR *DIE* IN THE ATTEMPT. SPARE NOT THY WINGS, BRAVE STEED.

AH, THERE HE IS!

THE SHINING KNIGHT! I HAVE HEARD OF HIM!

BUT MY MAGIC WILL DEPRIVE HIM OF HIS STRENGTH...

HE MAY BE DANGEROUS. WAIT WITHOUT, VICTORY, WHILE I DISPOSE OF THIS VILLAIN!

AH, 'TIS *MY* STRENGTH WHICH WILL DEPRIVE *HIM* OF HIS MAGIC!

YIIIII!

AS FOR THESE ROGUES, I WILL SHORTEN THEIR SWORDS WITH MY OWN ENCHANTED WEAPON.

OW!

ZOUNDS! THE SWORD IS BEWITCHED!

--AND THEY SHALL TASTE DEFEAT TO THE HILT!

EEEHHH!

BUT AS THE MAN OF YESTERDAY STEPS BACK TO AVOID A MISSILE...

I FEAR NEITHER SWORDS NOR DAGGERS, VILLAINS...

BUT WHO...?

HA, 'TIS ONLY A MIRAGE! FOR A MOMENT, SO CLEAR IT WAS, I THOUGHT 'TWAS ANOTHER KNIGHT.

THOU ART *RIGHT*, SHINING KNIGHT... AND ALSO *WRONG*! I AM INDEED THY IMAGE... BUT THAT DOES NOT STOP ME FROM STEPPING OUT OF THIS MYSTIC MIRROR!

WHA--

AND, AS THE MIRROR BELONGS TO SURLIN, SO DO I! *ON GUARD!*

NAY--THIS *CANNOT* BE!

IT IS! THOU WILL DOUBT NO MORE WHEN MY SWORD CUTS THROUGH THY COAT OF MAIL TO THY HEART!

THAT WILL *NEVER* BE! LAY ON, KNIGHT, THOU SHALT SOON HAVE THY FILL!

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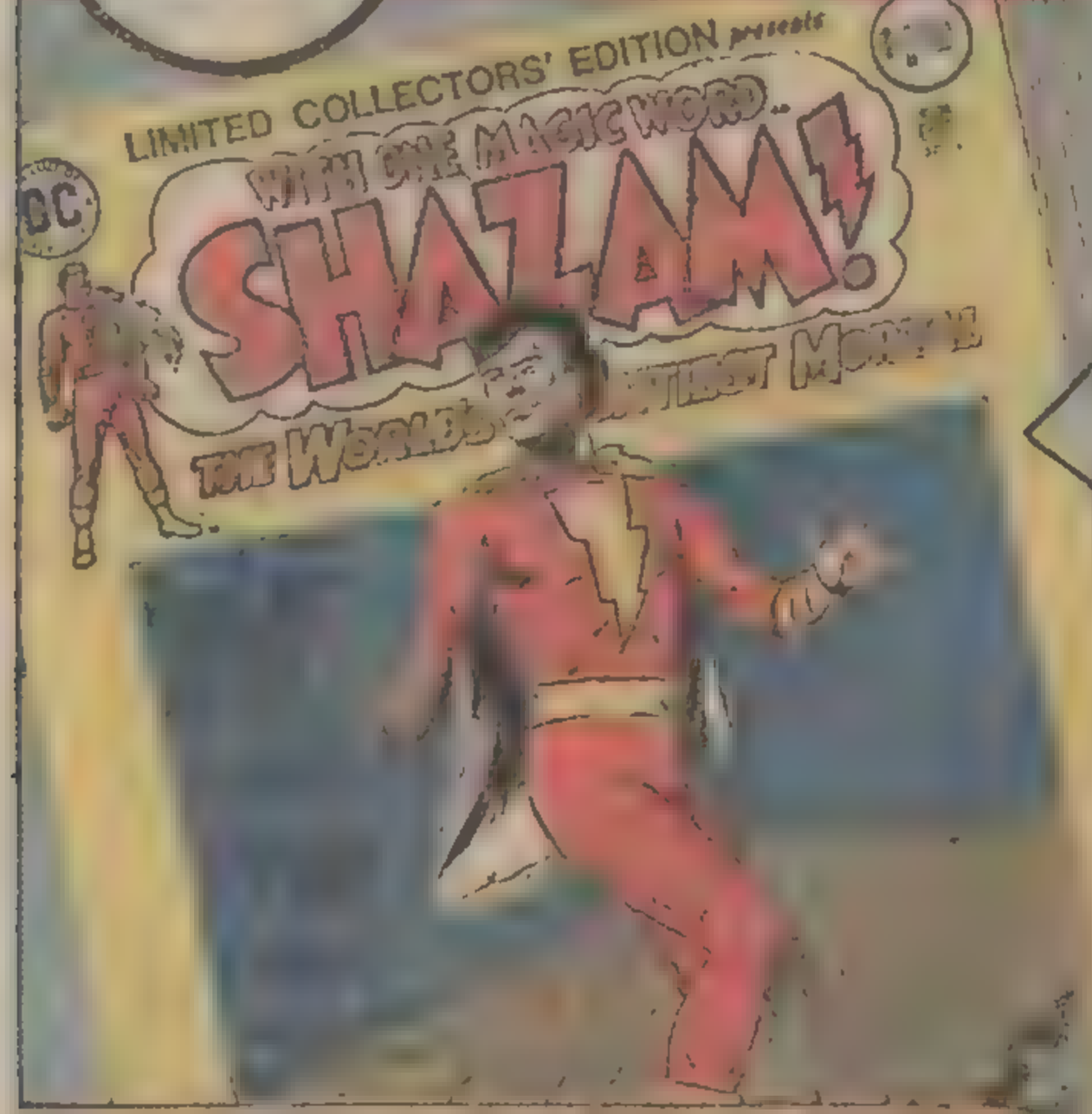

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BUT WITH EACH SWORDSMAN THE EXACT DUPLICATE OF THE OTHER, NEVER WERE OPPONENTS SO EVENLY MATCHED! BLADE CRASHES ON BLADE AND ARMOR ON ARMOR, AS THE KNIGHTS GO BY, WITH NO ADVANTAGE TO EITHER KNIGHT...

BY MY TROTH, I NEVER THOUGHT TO MEET MY *EQUAL* WITH THE SWORD --BUT I HAVE MET HIM TODAY!

AYE, AND SO HAVE I. MY ARM *TIRES.*

THAT'S WHAT WE'RE WAITING FOR, KNIGHT!

NOW HE CANNOT FIGHT BACK! THANKS, KNIGHT OF THE MIRROR.

NOW THE MAGICIAN WILL SLAY ME...UNLESS I THINK *FAST.* BUT WHAT CAN I DO?

AH, I HAVE IT!

LET GO OF ME, YOU SCURVY KNAVES! THOU HAST *MISTAKEN* ME FOR THE REAL KNIGHT...*HE* IS YOUR ENEMY!

THE *OTHER* ONE?

WHICH ONE HAVE WE, MASTER SURLIN, THE REAL KNIGHT OR THE ONE FROM THE MIRROR?

HMM. I MYSELF *CANNOT TELL* THEM APART. BEST TO TAKE NO CHANCES...

SEIZE HIM, TOO!

AHY THOU SCURVY MAGICIAN!

SAVE YOUR *BREATH,* KNIGHT, YOU'LL NEED IT!

PRESENTLY...

LATER I SHALL FIND A WAY TO DISCERN WHICH IS WHICH...FOR NOW BOTH WILL BE SAFE HERE.

THE ROGUES HAVE BOUND ME WELL... TRY AS I WILL, I *CANNOT* CUT THE ROPES WITHOUT MY SWORD.

BUT I HAVE A *PLAN.* FIRST I MUST REACH THE MAGIC MIRROR...

THE BLADE IN THE MIRROR IS AS *SHARP* AS MINE...

...AND *THAT* BLADE I CAN REACH!

AH, I HAVE OUTWITTED THE MAGICIAN WITH HIS OWN MIRROR!

THIS TIME I WILL NOT FALL VICTIM TO MY OWN IMAGE! *FOREWARNED,* I AM FOREARMED!

I AM UNDONE!

MORE THUGS PRESENT NO PROBLEM TO THE SHINING KNIGHT, AS HE BATTLES HIS WAY TO THE MAGICIAN'S THROAT!

NOW, THOU MAGICKING ROGUE, EITHER *RELEASE* THE PRINCESS OF TWIN OAKS OR THY *LIFE* WILL *PAY* THE FORFEIT!

THE PRINCESS...? YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, KNIGHT ...LET ME SHOW YOU!

THERE IS THE PRINCESS OF TWIN OAKS...A PRIZE *SOW!* HER OWNER PROMISED TO SELL HER TO ME, THEN CHANGED HIS MIND, SO I TOOK HER BY FORCE.

AND I THOUGHT TO FIND A *DAMSEL* IN DISTRESS! WELL, AT ANY RATE, THOU MUST RETURN HER TO HER OWNER.

AND AS THE MAGICIAN PROMISES TO DO NO FURTHER HARM...

THOU HAST BEEN A CHIVALROUS OPPONENT, KNIGHT, SO BEFORE I RETURN WHENCE I CAME THIS WORD OF ADVICE. THOU, TOO, CANST USE THE MIRROR ...STEP INTO IT, AND GO WHERE THOU WILT.

THANKS, FELLOW KNIGHT.

HO, VICTORY! I FEAR LEST SOME MISFORTUNE HAS HAPPENED TO OUR COMRADES. AND THERE IS ONLY ONE MAN WHO KNOWS WHERE THEY HAVE ALL GONE.

SO, 'TIS BACK TO *WILLIE WISHER* FOR US. VICTORY. AND WOE BETIDE HIM IF THEY HAVE COME TO HARM!

THE END

NEXT ISSUE:

GREEN ARROW AND *SPEEDY* MUST DO BATTLE WITH THE STARS AND PLANETS THEMSELVES TO FIND THE ROAD BACK FROM THE LAND OF MAGIC NEXT ISSUE, WHEN THEY ENCOUNTER THE STRANGEST INNKEEPER OF ALL ...THE LANDLORD OF...

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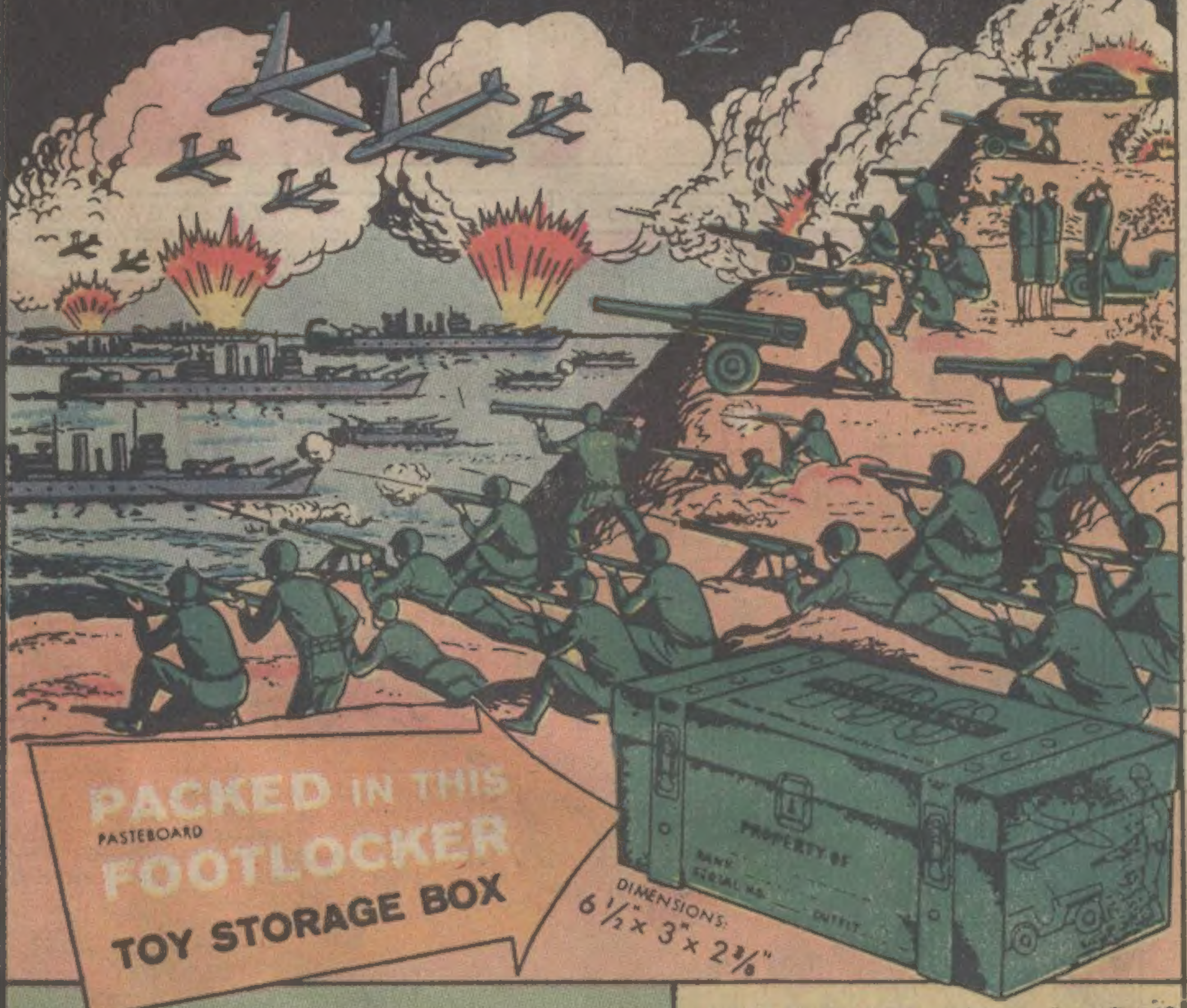

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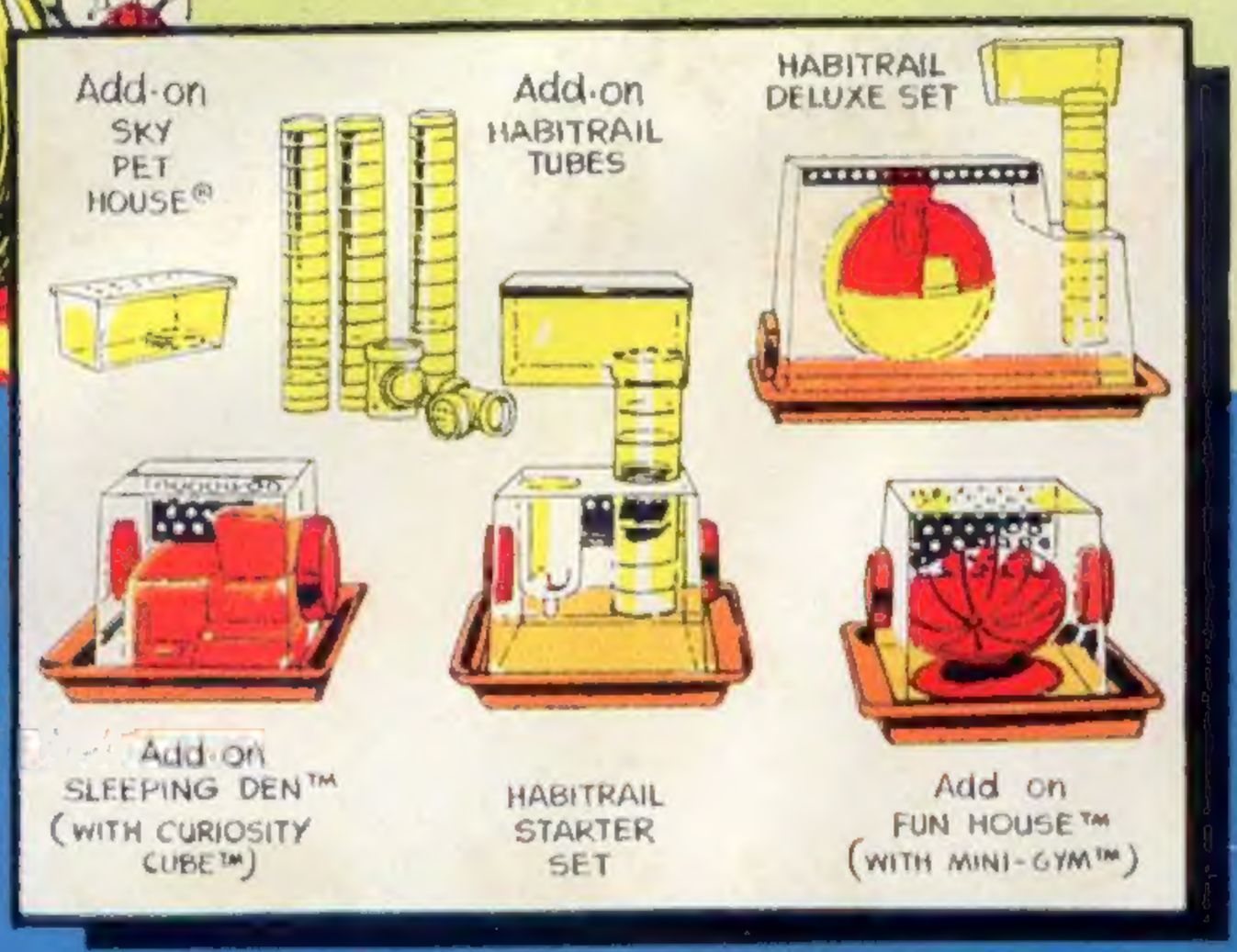
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